

LS 6-1840a

OGC Has Reviewed

14 September 1956

25X1

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SUBJECT: Agency Relief in Personal Hardship Cases

1. Thanks for your comments of 5 September. I do not want to overmultiply the memoranda, but I do want to make it clear precisely what I am driving at, which at present is limited to medical benefits for dependents prospectively, i. e., to be effective only in cases arising after the Director's approval, if given. This does not involve any change in our opinion of the law as it has existed.

2. The suggestion arises because the legal background has changed to some extent. Whereas previously there was a record of consistent congressional opposition to such benefits, within the last year this record has been reversed and Congress has granted the benefits to the Department of State. This is sufficient, I believe, to justify and support an approach to the Comptroller General. and I will see his General Counsel shortly on an informal basis. I think we have the arguments well in hand, but if we need case histories or such we may call on you for assistance.

25X1

S/
LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

cc: Legislative Counsel
OGC chrono
✓subject-Medical 2
OGC:LRH:jeb